

A.
CALL
TO
Christendom.

In an Earnest Expostulation
with Her to prepare for
the Great and Notable

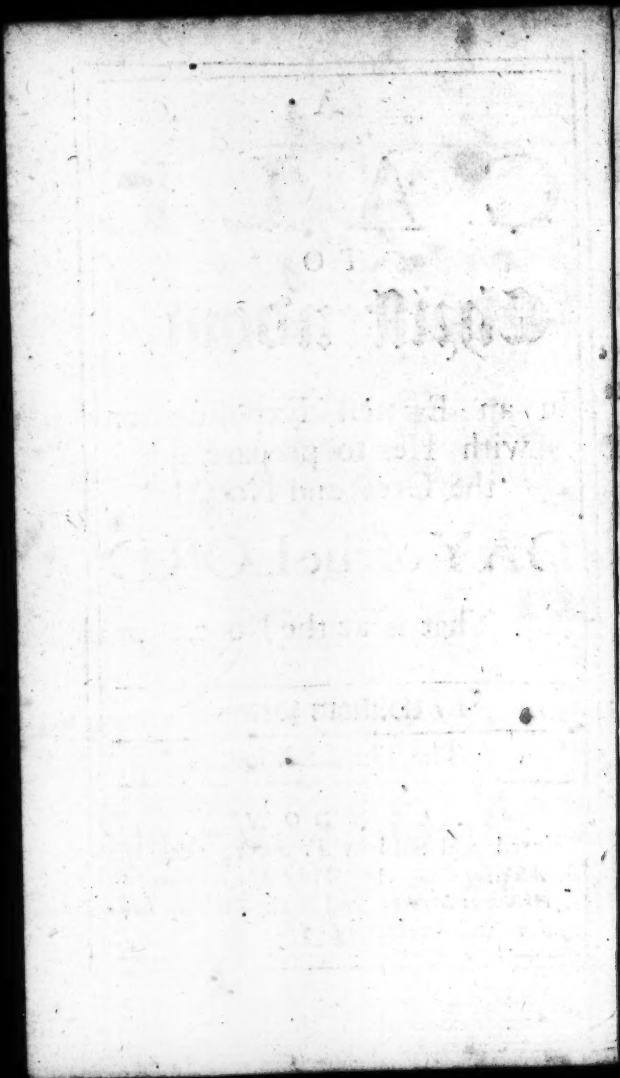
DAY of the LORD

That is at the Door.

By **William Penn.**

The Third Edition.

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A
C A L L
 T O

Christendom!

A Wake, O *Christendom!* Awake,
 and come to Judgment, for the
Great and Notable Day of the
Lord is drawing apace upon thee; pre-
 pare to meet him, thou and thy Chil-
 dern, for the Hour of his Judgment ha-
 steneth upon you, as Travail on a Wo-
 man with Child; in which all your
Works shall be tried, and that by *Fire*:
 For the Day of the Lord shall burn as an
 Oven, and all the proud, and all that do
 wickedly, shall be as stubble. Yea, by fire
 and by sword will the Lord God Almighty
 plead

plead with all Flesh ; with all fleshly Worshippers and Workers, who live after the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof : And with the Spirit of Judgment, and the Spirit of Burning, that is, with Spiritual Judgment and Burning will he visit all Ranks and Regions upon the Earth : Yea, his holy Terrors shall take hold of the Rebellious, and Anguish and Distress shall fill the Souls of the Gilty. The Faces of Nations shall gather paleness and their Knees smite together, because of the Anger of God, that is kindled against them, and his fierce Wrath, that is revealing from Heaven against all the ungodly ; but more especially against the Children of the Mystery of Iniquity : 'Tis in this day, that the kindreds of the Earth shall mourn with a great Lamentation.

*O Christendom ! Thou hast long sate as a Queen, that should never know sorrow ; Great have been thy Pretences, and large thy Profession of God, Christ, Spirit and Scriptures ; come, let me Expostulate with thee and thy Children, in the fear and presence of Him, that shall bring every word and work to Judgment. God is pure, and the pure in heart only see him :
Now*

(50)

Now are you pure? Do you see him? God is a *Spirit*, and none can worship him aright, but such as come to his *Spirit*, and obey it: Do you so? *Christ is the Gift of God*; have you received him into your Hearts? Does he rule there? Then have you Eternal Life abiding in you: If not, you are not *true Christians*. The *Spirit of Truth* leadeth into all *Truth*; and the *Children of God* are born of it, and led by it. But are you led into all the holy way of *Truth*, born of this Eternal *Spirit*? Then you follow not the *Spirit* of this *World*, nor do your own Wills, but the *Will of God*. You Profess the holy *Scriptures*; but what do you witness and experience? What intrest have you in them? Can you set to your Seal they are true, by the *work* of the same *Spirit* in you, that gave them forth in the holy *Antients*? What's *David's Roarings* and *Praises* to thee, that livest in the Lusts of this *World*? What's *Paul's* and *Peter's Experience* to thee, that walkest after the *Flesh*?

O you, that are called *Christians*, give ear a little unto me, for I am prest in *Spirit* to write to you: Read with patience,

and consider my words ; for behold what I have to say unto you, concerneth your Eternal Good.

GOD hath so loved the World, that he hath sent his only Begotten Son into the VWorld, that those that believe in him, should have Eternal Life. And this Son is Christ Jesus, the true Light, that lighteth every one coming into the World ; and they that abide not in him the Light, dwell in Darkness, in Sin, and are under the Region and Shadow of Death: Yea, dead in Sin, and see not their own states, neither perceive the sad Conditions of their own Souls. They are blind to the things of God's Kingdom, and unsensible of true and spiritual Life and Motion, what it is, to live to God : And in that state are alienated from God, without true Judgment and living Knowledge ; and under the Curse. For in Jesus Christ, the Light of the World : are hid all the Treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge, Redemption and Glory ; they are hid from the worldly Christians, from all that are captivated by the Spirit and Lusts of the VWorld : And whoever would see them, (for therein consist the things, that

that belong to their Eternal Peace) must come to Christ Jesus, the true *Light* in their *Consciences*, bring their Deeds to him, love him, and obey him; whom God hath ordained a *Light* to lighten the *Gentiles*, and for his *Salvation* to the ends of the *Earth*. *Light* and *Salvation* are joyned together; and none can come to *Salvation*, but as they come first to the *Light*, and submit to the manifestation of it, which leadeth to *Salvation*. For the *Nations* of them that are saved, shall walk in the light of the *Lamb*, Christ Jesus. *Light* and *Sanctification* are also joyned together: If we walk in the *Light*, as God is in the *Light*, the *Blood* of Jesus Christ his Son shall cleanse us from all *Sin*. And *Light* and *Life Eternal* are joyned together: For in the *Word* (that was with God in the beginning, and was God, by whom all things were made, that were made) was *Life*, and that *Life* the *Light* of *Men*. And this is the *Testimony* of Jesus, I am the *Light* of the world: he that followeth me, shall not abide in darkness, but have the *Light* of *Life*: Yea, it is *Eternal Life* to believe in him, in Christ the *Light*, to receive, embrace, and to follow him, And

this is that true Light (saith the same beloved Disciple) *that lighteth every man, that cometh into the World.* Now this *Light* shineth in *Darkness*, in the Children of *Darkness*, in their dark Hearts, in their black Souls, and defiled Consciences; but in this *Darkness* they comprehend it not. Neither can man know the *Nature* and *Benefit* of it, whilst he rebelleth against it; for the Vertue and Excellency of it is shut up and hid from the *Children of Disobedience*. To as many as received him of old, gave he power to become the Children of *God*; and they that did his Will, knew his Doctrine to be of *God*, and of Power and Efficacy to their Salvation.

But this is the great *Condemnation* of the *World* at this day, that though *God* hath sent his Son a *Light* into the Hearts of all Men and Women, to manifest and reprove their Evil Deeds, and to save them; yet they love *Darkness*, they love the Lusts and Imaginations of their vain Hearts, better than his holy *Light*, that is given unto them for Salvation: They chuse *Barrabas* rather, than *Jesus*. Yea, they have set up other *Lights*, than *Christ Jesus*,

Jesus, God's great *Light* ; and other Prophets, than *Christ* ; God's great *Prophet* ; and other *Priests* than *Jesus*, the *High-Priest* of the New Covenant : But they are *dark Lights*, *false Prophets*, and *blind Priests*. *All that came before Me*, saith *Christ*, are *Thieves and Robbers* : And all that Pray, Preach, Sing, Worship, &c. and not by the *Light* and *Spirit* of *Jesus*, they go before *Christ*, before *Christ* cometh, before he prepareth their *Hearts*, and toucheth their *Lips* with a *Coal* from his *Heavenly Altar* ; and perform *Worship* in their own *Will*, *Time* and *Power*, and stay not for his *Leadings*. And therefore all such rob *Christ* of his *Office*, who is the *Leader* of the true *Christians* ; their *Heavenly High-priest*, to anoint them, and offer their *Sacrifices* to *God* for them ; and *Prophet*, to let them see and know by his *Light* in their *Hearts*, what they ought to do, according to the *New* and *Everlasting Covenant* ; *I will write my Law in their hearts*, and *put my Spirit in their inward parts*, and they shall be all taught of me, saith the *Lord*.

Now

Now this is the Question to the whole World called Christian: Do you see with this Divine Light? Have you searcht your Hearts with it? And are you anointed by this High-priest with his holy Unction, that leadeth into all Truth? Doth this Heavenly Prophet give you Vision, and reveal the Father to you? Is he your Eye, your Head, your Wisdom? Do you live, move, and have your life and being in him, in Praying, Preaching and Singing, yea, in your whole Conversation? Are you renewed into this Life and Image? And have you heard his Voicē, and seen his Shape? Are you Witnesses of his holy Rebukes, his pure Judgments, the Shame and Death of his Cross? Is he the Fountain of your Knowledge? The Author of your Faith? O consider! Are you of those, that have Spoke with Jesus? That have been taught in the School of his holy Cross? Students in his Heavenly Academy? O have you drunk of his Cup, and been Baptized with his Baptism? Tell me, in the Fear of the Lord God, you that call your selves Christians, doth he go before you, and lead you, as a Master teacheth his Disciples, and a Captain leadeth his Souldiers? And do
you

you follow him in all the weighty things of this Life? And doth he order your Minds, and rule your Affections? If not, you are *Thieves* and *Robbers*; for you rob *Christ* of his *Office*. For God hath appointed him to be the *Leader* and *Ruler* of all People; yea, 'tis God's Decree; and those that he leadeth not in their *Thoughts*, *Words* and *Works*, shall never come to God: for all must come to God by him, that is, by his *Light* and *Spirit* ruling in their Hearts, which sanctifieth, regenerateth and converteth the Soul to God.

And the Cause of the *Confusion* and *Contention*, that is about *Religion* in *Europe* at this day, is, That Men have deserted this true *Light* and holy *Spirit*, and so are degenerated from the *life* and *power* of pure and unspotted *Religion*, and have attempted to comprehend *Christ's* Doctrines without *Christ's* *Light*, and to know the *Things* of God without the *Spirit* of God. And being thus miserably erred by wicked *VVorks* from the one *Spirit* of *Truth*, they have wandred into the fallible *Conceits* and *Opinions* of Men. And in this State one Party hath contended

tended against another : From *Words* they have fallen to *Blows*, and the strongest hath opprest the weakest. And not knowing what Spirit they were of, have called *Light* *Darkness*, and *Darkness* *Light* ; putting the *Sheep's-skin* upon the *Wolf*, and the *Wolf's-skin* upon the poor *Sheep* of *Christ*, endeavouring by carnal *Weapons* to enforce their *Opinions*, and to extort *Conformity* by worldly *Laws* and *Punishments* to their *Perswasions*. All this is out of the *Light*, *Life* and *Doctrine* of *Christ* *Jesus*, and in the Spirit of *Darkness*, *Confusion*, *Strife* and *Blood-shed*, which is the *Devil*. All which *Babel* must and shall come down by the *Light*, *Power* and *Spirit* of *Jesus* now rising in the *VWorld* ; and *Hell*, *Death*, and the *Grave* shall not be able to hinder it. For the set time, the appointed time of the *Father*, is come, and the *Judgment* is begun.

O ye, that are called *Roman-Catholicks*, tell me, are you truly *Catholick*, that is of an *Universal Spirit* ? Then you will not *persecute*, but love all, and be tender to all. Are you truly *Roman*, and *Successors* of that *Antient*, *Apostolical Church* ; Then
you

you walk not after the Flesh, but after the Spirit; yea, the Spirit of Christ dwelleth in you, and you are led by the Spirit of God, and can call him Father in Truth and Righteousness, and the Word of God in the Heart is your Teacher, and not the Traditions of Men; for so the Romans of old time were instructed. O consider, if you are true Successors, you must follow them in the same Nature, Spirit and Life; for in that only standeth the Christians Succession, to wit, in Christ: And every Branch, Persons or Church, that abideth not in this great Vine, is rejected for the Fire. Therefore deceive not your selves, as the Jews of old did, with crying, The Temple of the Lord, The Temple of the Lord; and saying, We have Abraham to our Father, and to us belongs the Fathers, Covenants, Law, Priesthood, and Chair of Moses: For as the Apostle said of old, so say I to you; His Servants you are, whom you obey; and he that worketh wickedness, is of the Devil. So that Christ's Successors are they, that take up his Cross, follow him, and that abide in his holy Doctrine, that keep his Commandments, and

them.

themselves unspotted from the VWorld. And those that follow the *Lust* of the *Eye*, the *Lust* of the *Flesh*, and *Pride* of *Life*, are not of Christ, nor of the *Father*, but of the World ; Subjects to the Prince of the Power of the Air, and Successors of *Sodom*, *Gomorrhah*, *Egypt*, *Tyre*, *Sidon*, and persecuting *Jerusalem* ; and not of the harmless, self-denying, holy, Suffering Spouse of Christ *Jesus*, that is ruled in all things by her Husband, her *Head*, her *Lord*. O search and try with the *Light* of *Jesus*, if you are not degenerated from Primitive Simplicity and Purity ! For great are the Abominations of all *Seets*, that flow like a *Deluge* throughout your Countries ! Repent and Turn to the Antient Apostolical Spirit and *Life*, that you may enter into the Rest of God.

O you, that call your selves *Evangelicks*, or *Gospellers*, are you *Evangelical* ? Are you saved from the *Lusts* and *Pleasures*, and dead *Worships* of the World by the mighty Power of God, which is the *Gospel*, and led by an Evangelical Spirit ? If not, you are not yet Redeemed, you are not yet under Grace, which is the *Gospel*.

Gospel-state : For you are not taught by it, but Rebel against it; how then are you true Gospellers, Men of Gospel-liberty, Men of Deliverance and Redemption; to whom Immortality is brought to Light, (as it is to all, that truly know and receive the Blessed Gospel) that are yet Subjects and Servants to Sin? How can you sing the *Song of the Lamb*; that are not delivered by the *Lamb*; but by your vain Conversations Crucifie the *Lamb*, and do despite to the *Spirit of Grace*, and that every day? The true Gospellers are those, that receive the *Angel's Message*, who is the great Preacher of the *Everlasting Gospel*, viz. *Fear God, give Glory to his Name, for the hour of his Judgment is come; and no more Worship the Beast.* Do you fear God in Truth, and in Sincerity? Then are you fearful of offending the *Lord*, and tender of God's Glory; then are your Hearts kept clean, then are you wile to *Salvation*; and so you can glorifie God indeed; otherwise your Prayers and Praises are not *Evangelical* in God's sight.

But tell me, O ye Gospellers, is the *Hour of his Judgment* come to you? Is it be-

begun at your Houses yet? How do
 you feel it? Hath it *broken your Hearts?*
 Hath it *contristed your Spirits?* Have ye
 known the Godly Sorrow? (The Cha-
 stisements of the Lord, and Rebukes of
 the Almighty? Hath his pure Eternal
 Word *divided* yet betwixt your Souls
 and Spirits, the Joynts and Marrow?
 Have you ever been *weary and heavy la-*
den with Sin? Hath it been a burden to
 you? Did you ever cry out in the Ago-
 ny of your Spirits yet, *Men and Brethren,*
what shall we do to be saved? O! who
 shall deliver us from the Body of Sin here,
 and the wrath to come! (the Travel
 of the Holy Antients;) if not, you are
 yet strangers to Christ and his Kingdom:
 And if you die in that state, *Where he is*
gone, you shall never come. For Sion,
 God's City, must be redeemed through
 Judgments, and her Converts through
 Righteousness: Yea, the House of God
 cannot escape it; Wherefore, said one of
 Old; *If Judgment begin at the House of*
God, where shall the ungodly and sinners ap-
pear? O Wo to them, that live without
 the Judgments of the Lord! Wo to them,
 that cast his Reproofs behind their

Ba cks,

Backs, and live in earthly Pleasures, fattening up themselves in their Lusts and Pleasures, as for the Day of Slaughter, and treasuring up wrath against the day of wrath: O the *Antient Saints* lived not thus; they worked out their Salvation *with fear and trembling*; yea, they gave all diligence, to make their Calling and Election sure: Which way do you work out yours? *Habakkuk*, that holy Prophet, *his lips quivered, and his belly trembled, that his Soul might rest in the day of trouble*: Is this your state? Or, are you not rather *Worshippers* of the *Beast* at this day; Lovers of the *worldly, sensual, voluptuous Life*, walking in the lusts of the Eye, the lusts of the Flesh, and pride of Life; like *Rebellious Israel* of old, *forgetting God days without number*? But this know, that *All that forget God, shall be turned in to Hell*.

Oh! what is become of the *Fatherly Visitation* made to your Progenitors; those good beginnings sow'd in *Persecutions* and *Martyrdoms*? Have you answered the Loving-kindness of God therein? Have you advanc'd in the *Way of Righteousness*? Are you become an holy

B

Nation

Nation, and a peculiar People to God, Zealous of good Works? But have you not betaken your selves to the Wisdom and Learning of this World to make *Ministers*, and deserted the *Spirit* of the *Lord*, and fled to the Power and Policy of this World to defend and protect you, and not to the *Name* of the *Lord*, which hath always been the strong Tower of the Righteous? Nay, are you not divided one against another, and turned *Persecutors* for *Religion* your selves, denying that *liberty* to others, you took for your selves? Ah! Where is the Royal Law of *Doing as you would be done unto!*

Thus have you decayed and degenerated into a *Worldly Clergy*, and a *Carnal People*, holding and maintaining Reformed Words, in an Unreformed Spirit. Yea, are not the same evils, *Pride*, *Passions*, *Malice*, *Wars*, *Bloodshed*, *Persecution*, *Deceit*, *fleshly Lusts*, *Wantonness*, *vain Pleasures and Sports*; yea, all manner of *Worldly-mindedness* to be found in you, that were in the *Persecutors* of your *Fore-fathers*, and against which your most serious and best *Ancestors* faithfully
test i.

testified? So that the difference now is about Words and Sentences, and not about the *Life, Nature and Spirit of pure and undefiled Religion*; and Men are to be known now by their *Denominations, and Subscription to certain Human Creeds, Man-made Faiths and Forms*, and not by the *Spirit and Image of Christ Jesus, by the nature of the true Sheep* and by that *holy Unction*, that was the Bond of the heavenly Fellowship of the *Saints of Old*.

And you, that are called *Reformed*, with the rest of the Subdivided *Septs*? what better are you for your Names; Are ye Regenerated yet? Are you *Reformed* from the Lusts of the Eye, the Lusts of the Flesh, and the Pride of Life; from the *Devil* and all his Works? Are you born of the incorruptible Seed, that liveth and abideth for ever? And are you come out of the corruptible things; and doth Christ lead you? Is the Government of your Souls upon his Shoulders? Tell me, is it the *New Birth*, that which is born of God through many Tribulations, the *New Man* Created in Christ Jesus, that calleth God *Father* in your

Prayers, and that maketh mention of him in your Preachings? Or is it the *first Birth* of the *earth, earthly*, the old Man, the corrupt and unregenerated Nature, that which is born of the Flesh, that is to say, of the Seed of the evil One, the Father of all the fleshly Lusts, Inventions, Imaginations and Traditions of Men, that taketh pleasure in the vain and wicked Sports and Pleasures of this Apostate World, that forget God, and turn his Graces into Wantonness; reproaching, nick-naming and persecuting the Children of Regeneration with scornful Names and cruel Punishments, calling God *Father* as the *Jews* did; and Crucifying *Christ* afresh, by a vain Conversation, at the same time.

O you Degenerated *Christians* of all sorts; yea, all the several *Sects* in *Christendom*, that have deserted your *first Love*, and degenerated from the Life and Power of *Primitive Godliness*; with the *Light* of Christ Jesus in your Hearts examine your selves. *God hath lighted your Candle*, search and try your selves; see, how it standeth with you as to your Eternal Condition, before you go hence,
and

and be no more in this World. Consider, are you in the true *Faith* of *Christ* or no? For without true *Faith* none can please God; and without Pleasing him no Man can be saved. The *Devils* be-
 lieve, yea, and tremble too; that is more than *Thousands*, called *Christians*, do; and so far they are short of the very *Devils*. Have you *Faith*? Let's try it in the Name of God. *What is it for Faith?* Doth it overcome the World? Doth it live, and depend upon God? Can it forsake Coun-
 try and Kindred? Turn out Ishmael? Offer up Isaac? Live a Pilgrim, a Stran-
 ger in the World? Doth it work by that love, which can forsake all for *Christ's* Names sake? Doth it fight against the De-
 vil? Resist his fiery Darts? Overcome his Assaults and Temptations? And finally, pu-
 rifie the Soul to God's use? Is this your *Faith*, O you carnal, outside-Christians? No such matter; for you live in the flesh,
 fulfilling the Lusts thereof; and your care is, what you shall eat, drink, and
 put on, and how you should get the *Mammon*, *Friendship*, and *Glory* of this
 World. Examine your selves, and pre-
 pare, for the Day of the Lord hasteneth

upon you. And have a care, lest you partake not of the *Plagues*, that God hath prepared for *Babylon*; she that calleth her self the *Lamb's Bride*, and is an *Harlot*, committing *Fornication* throughout all *Nations* and *Sects*, that is, those that by a *lying Spirit* have had their Hearts seduced from God and his holy Feare, yet in Words profess'd to be his People; who call themselves *Jews*, but are not; *Christians*, and are not, but of the *Synagogue of Satan*; being Strangers to the *Circumcision in Spirit*, and *Baptism* that is with *Fire*, and with the *Holy Ghost*: With *Fire*, to consume the fleshly Nature; and with the *Holy Ghost*, to beget the heavenly Nature in Man. O! the *Downfal* of this great City, and the *Desolation* of this *false Church*, through all the *Sects in Christendom*, is come and coming! yea, in *one day* shall it be accomplisht, even in the day of the *Appearance* of *Christ*, who is the *Second Adam*, the Lord from Heaven, who by the Brightness of his Coming, and by the Breath of his Mouth in the Hearts of Nations, shall reveal, and destroy; this great *Antichrist* this Man of Sin in Man, that
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sitteth in the Place of God ; yea, exalted above all that is called God, requiring *Conformity* to all his Inventions, and Injunctions upon pain of *Life, Liberty* and *Estate* : Nor are any suffered to *Buy* or *Sell* in this great City, but such as will receive his *Mark*.

Wo to you all in the Name of the Lord, that call God your *Father*, and are not Born of him ; that name his *Name*, and hate to be Reformed : That call *Jesus Lord*, and not by the Holy Ghost ; who take his pure Name into your Mouths, and depart not from Iniquity. I say to you, on God's behalf, as God said to the *Jews* of old ; your Prayers, your Sacrifices, and your solemn Assemblies, &c. in an unconverted state, are Abomination to the *Lord*. No matter for your Names, your Pretences, your Creeds, if you live *without God in the World* ; that is, without his holy *Awe* in your Hearts ; without a Divine Sense of his Presence in your Souls, and know not that Godly Sorrow, that worketh unfeigned Repentance, the only way to Eternal Life. Your *Worship* God loatheth : A Dog's neck, Swines-blood, yea, to Bless an Idol,

dol, or *kill a Man*, is altogether as acceptable with the Lord. O! God is wroth with the *feigned Worship*, as well as common Ungodliness of the World: Come to Christ's Spirit, be led of it, and do not your own Wills, but the Will of Christ Jesus; and then you shall know the *true Worship*: For the true *Ministry* and *Worship* of God stand not in the Will, Wisdom, or Appointment of Men, nor can they be performed by unregenerated Men; but in the leadings of his Eternal Spirit, by whom all the faithful offer up themselves, an acceptable Sacrifice to God, not to live unto themselves, but to him that hath purchased them. 'Tis true, Christ Jesus died for the *ungodly*, but not that they should continue *ungodly*, but take up his *daily Cross*, and follow him. Christ (saith Peter) hath offered up himself once for all, leaving us an Example, that we should follow his steps: As he was in this world, so we should be, saith John, not conformable to the Rudiments, Fashions and Customs of this World, that pass away; but transformed and renew'd in our minds by the Grace, that he hath given us: which

Grace

Grace bringeth Salvation to all that obey it, teaching such to deny all ungodliness, and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously and god likely in this present evil World : Because, without *Holiness*, none shall ever see the Lord : That is God's Decree.

Wherefore be you not deceived , O you *Formal* and *Titular Christians* ; God will not be mocked : Such as you sow, such shall you reap at the Hand of the Lord ; *Yea , for every idle word shall you give an Accompt in the Day of Judgment.* Think not with your selves, you have *Christ* to your Saviour, and you are reconciled to God, through *Christ*, and that God looketh not upon you, as you are in your selves, but as in *Christ*, whilst you walk not after the *Spirit*, but after the *Flesh* : for the *Wages of Sin is Death* ; but the Gift of God is Eternal Life through *Jesus Christ* our Lord : To whom ? Not to them, that despise his *Light* in their *Hearts*, that grieve his *Spirit*, and by a worldly Conversation go on to Crucifie him ; and who follow not *Jesus* in the way of *Tribulation* and *Regeneration*. God is of purer Eyes,
than

than to behold Iniquity; and he looketh unto Men and Women to be, *what they really are*; and not what they imagine themselves to be: Behold he cometh, and his Reward is with him; and he will reward all according to their works. *Sinners, while such, can no more come into Christ, than into God; for God is in Christ, and Christ is in God: Christ is holy, harmless, pure and undefiled, and separate from Sinners.* And if ever you would have God look upon you to be in Christ, you must *come into Christ*: And you can never come into Christ, the new and heavenly Man, that is undefiled and separated from Sinners, till you *come out of Sin, and the Author of it, the Devil, the old Man of Sin, and leave your wicked Deeds of darkness.*

Therefore be ye separate from every evil Way: Christ, the *Immaculate Lamb* of God, came not only to save Men from *Wrath*, but from *Sin*, which is the cause of Wrath. *Behold the Lamb of God, saith John, which taketh away the sin of the World*: Not their Sin, that will not believe in him; but the Sins of those that are *weary and heavy laden, that wait, hun-*
ger,

ger, thirst, and cry for his Salvation; whom God hath given for a Light to lighten the Gentiles, and for his Salvation to the ends of the Earth. O you that are called by his Sacred name, Repent, Repent! Prepare, Prepare to meet the Lord, who is coming in the way of his Judgments to visit the Inhabitants of the Earth; and put away the evil of your doings, and turn to him, that he may receive you.

But *Wo*, in the Name of the Lord, to all that Rebel against the *Light of Christ Jesus*, Who serve another *Master*, and follow another *Captain*, and obey the Prince of the Power of the Air, who reigneth in the Hearts of the Children of Disobedience. Yea, *Wo* unto all, who are covered with a covering, and not of my Spirit; that take counsel, and not of me, saith the Lord: Who gather sticks, and kindle a Fire of their own, and compass themselves about in the Sparks, which they have kindled; for this shall they have at my hand, *They shall lye down in Sorrow*.

Wo from God to all the *Will-worshippers*, who *Worship*, but not in the Spirit and in the Truth; their *Worship* is not available

available. He that *Worships* God aright, is turned to the *Spirit*, and is taught and led by the *Spirit*. And such as have received the *Spirit* of *Christ*, are not led by their own *Spirits*, nor by the *Spirit* of this *World*, nor according to the *Inventions* and *Traditions* of men. Neither do they *Conform* themselves to the *customs* and *Fashions* of this *World*, nor will they bow to the *Glory* of this *World*, or the *God* of it. But having seen him, whom they have peirced with their vain *Conversation* in *Times* past, they *mourn*, and are in great *bitterness*, because they have done despite to his holy *Spirit* of *Grace*, that strove so long with them for their *Redemption*. And being called by his *Spiritual* Call in their *Hearts*, to come out of *Babylon*, the great *City* of *Will-worship*, *Confusion* and *Darkness*, that is in the *Earth*, do chearfully resign up all to follow him in the narrow *Way* of *self-denial*, as his holy *Disciples* did of *Old*. And such have learned by good *Experience*, that *Without Christ* they can do no thing: Though in these days scarcely any thing is done with him, or by him. For he is resisted in his *Spiritual Appearance* in the

the *Consciencs* of those, that make a Profession of him with their Mouths; and therefore he doth not many mighty Works in them: Yea he is *smitten, spit upon, Crown'd with Thorns, Pierc'd and Crucified* of all false *Christians*, through their *Rebellion* and *Wickedness*.

O *Wo* from the Great and Just God, that made Heaven and Earth, upon all People, that work Iniquity, and forget God! *Wo* to you *Kings* and *Princes*, that have Crucified the *Lord* of *Life* and *Glory*; yea, you have Crucified him in your selves, and helpt to Crucifie him in others: He lyeth *slain* at this day in your *Streets*. For you have not Ruled for God, as you ought to have done; but for *your selves*, to please your own Lusts: and have not sought the *Glory* of the *Lord*, nor the Prosperity of his *Work* in the Earth, so much as the *Greatness* of your own *Names*, and to enlarge your worldly *Dominions*, often *Oppressing* the *Poor*, and *Persecuting Consciencious Dissenters*; but suffering almost all manner of *Vice* and *Vanity* to go unpunisht. How doth the *Lust* of the *Eye*, and the *Lust* of the *Flesh*, and the *Pride* of *Life* reign in
your

your Territories? Are not your *Courts* the very *Schools of Vanity*, and *Nurseries of Worldly Lusts and Pleasures*, which War against the Soul, and lead to Eternal Destruction? O! you have much to answer for before the great God at the Day of his Terrible Tribunal, who have power in your Hands, to chase away *Wickedness*, and to reform the World. It is written, *A King upon his Throne of Judgment scattereth all evil with his Eye*: O! that the *Kings and Princes* of the World knew this *Throne of true Judgment*! That they had this *Godlike Majesty*, that they would purge their Lands of *Evil-Doers*, that they and their People might escape the Wrath and Vengeance of God, that is ready to be poured forth upon them!

And *Wo* to you *Nobles of the Earth*; that spend your *Estates in Pleasures*, and your Days in *Vanity*; that, like those of old, *Drink wine in Bowles*, and stretch your selves upon *Couches of Ivory*: That invent *Musical Instruments* for your Mirth, but remember not the *Afflictions* of Joseph, neither consider of your latter End. *What Pride, Lust and Excess* lye at your Doors!

Doors ! What *Spoil* and *Wast* do you make in the World ! You live, as if you should never die ; caring only, what you should *eat*, what you should *drink*, and what you should *put on* ; how you should *trim*, *perfume* and *beautifie* your poor Mortal selves, and at which *Plays* and *Sports* you should divert and spend away that *troublesome and melancholy thing*, called *Time*, (as you esteem it) instead of *Redeeming the Time*, because the days are *evil*, and preparing for the Eternal Judgment. Is this the way to *Glory* ? Did Jesus give you this Example ? O ! He is Crucified by these things ! This is far from the true *Nobility* and *Christian Honour*, that cometh from above.

Wo to you *Judges* of the Earth, who pervert *Judgment* for a Reward, that Oppress the poor, and dispise the Cause of the Needy, who regard the Mighty and the Rich in *Judgment*, and delay *Justice* for the Fear or Favour of Man. That subject the *Laws* to your *Wills*, and *Righteous Rule* to your *Passions* and *Interest*. Repent, and be just, for God the Just God, the great Judge, of Heaven and Earth shall Judge you all according
to

to your *Works*: And dreadful shall that Day of his Reckoning and Tribunal be to all the Workers of Iniquity! But especially to *Unjust and Corrupt Judges*.

And *Wo* to you *Lawyers*, that refuse no *Cause* for Money; but will Plead even against *Law, Truth* and *Justice* for Advantage, teaching your Tongues to *Advocate* for a *Lye*, and your Mouths for *Gain*, to plead the Cause of *Unrighteousness*; raising unreasonable Wealth unto your selves by the *Folly, Ignorance* and *Concession* of the People. O the *Equivocation, Deceit, Falshood* and *Iniquity*, that is in your Profession; in which, you let your Consciences out to hire at every *Summons* for all sort of *Causes*: Inſomuch, that 'tis the *Money*, and not the *Cause*, that prevailed. And the worst Cause most commonly, is most desired, because the *Clients*, doubtful of his Success, is usually the most *Liberal* to you: This also is for *Judgment*.

And *Wo* to you *Merchants* and *Traders*, that have not the *Lord's Fear* before your Eyes; whose God is *Gold* and *Gain*, that neither Buy nor Sell with regard to his just Principle in your Consciences that
use

use vain and deceitful Words, and that are not come to the just Measure, and the Righteous Ballance; but use *Frauds* for Advantage: That neither Eye the Lord's Providence by *Sea*, nor his Care by *Land*; but Day and Night cast about, how to raise to your selves a great *Name* and *Estate*, to exalt your Nests, and rank your Families among the Rich, and the Noble of the Earth! The Lord will also plead with you! *Repent*, and *Fear* before God.

Wo to you *Farmers* and *Countrymen*, that reward the Lord evil for good, who giveth you *Increase* of all things in their proper Seasons, yet you discern not his Hand, you regard not his Care; you live *without God in the world*: Yet no Life is fuller of the Lord's Providence, who preserveth and prospereth your *Flocks*, who increaseth your *Wine*, your *Corn*, and your *Grass*; instead of remembering his goodness with Reverence, and in your *Harvests* praising him with Fear, you Sacrifice to your *Lusts*, and rejoice only in your Fulness; making Merry at your *Harvests* without the Fear of God, or looking to him, that giveth

You to Increase. Repent, and Fear before the God of the whole Earth. 318

But above all others, *Wo* to you Scribes, Pharisees and Hypocrites, you Priests and Pastors, who have taken a Charge, that God never gave you; who run, and he never sent you; who say, Thus saith the Lord, and he never spake to you, or by you. That steal the Words of the Prophets and Apostles, and with them, makes Merchandize to the People, not knowing the pure Word of God in your Hearts, to be as an Hammer, a Fire, a Sword, to destroy Sin, and to Purge, redeem, and reconcile you to God; but boast in other Mens Lines, and speak things made ready to your hands, That Teach for Hire, and Divine for Money; who seek Honour of Men, and love the uppermost places of Feasts. Who speak Peace to the Wicked, and sow Pillows under their Elbows for Reward: Pleasers of Men more, than Pleasers of God. *Wo* to you in the Name of the Lord, that counterfeit his Commission, and deceive the People, requiring their Money for that which is not Bread, and their Labour, for that which doth not profit: At
your

your Doors lyeth the *Blood of Souls, in which you have traded*. O you *Physicians of no Value*, whom have you Cured? Where is the *Seal of your Ministry*? Is it not an abominable Cheat, that you take Money to Cure, yet cannot Cure; that have no Medicine to Cure; and at last maintain, that the Disease is incurable? You are they, that will neither enter into the Kingdom your selves, nor suffer others. For when-ever we have seen your *Delusions*, and deserted your *Assemblies*, presently a *Pacquet of Letters* must be sent to *Damascus*: The *Magistrate* must be called upon to be *Goaler and Hangman* for the *Priest*. What *Wars, Changes and Persecutions* ever beset the World, since you had a Being, in which you have not been at *Head or Tail*? O your Practices shall more and more come to light: And the day hasteneth, that your very *Name and Calling* (as now held) shall be had in Abhorrence by the Nations. O you numerous Off-spring of the great, false Prophet, that hath been a *Liar* from the beginning; hereby is it known, that God hath never sent you, that you have not profited the

People; they are God's Words by the Prophet *Jeremy*. Weep and Howl, for the day of your great Calamity hasteneth upon you! Your *Father* and *Mother* are come into remembrance before the Lord, the Hour of their Judgment is at the Door. God will fill you the *Cup* of his *Fury*, you shall drink it at his Hand.

O! I cannot but cry aloud to you all of all *Ranks* and *Qualites*, from the highest to the lowest, that walk not after the *Spirit*, but after the *Flesh*, daily fulfilling the Lusts thereof; That you would Repent, and be saved. O how hath *Christ's Religion* been Prophaned, and his Holy Name Blasphemed by the lewd Life of profest Christians! The very *Heathens* are scandal'd and the Nations round about have you in scorn and derision. Arise, O God, for thy Name's sake! O what Tremendous Oaths and Lyes! What Revenge and Murders, with Drunkenness and Gluttony! What Pride and Luxury! What Chamberings and Wantonness! What Fornications, Rapes, and Adulteries! What Masks and Revels! What lustful Ornaments, and enchanting Attires!

*Attires! What proud Customs, and vain
Complements! What Sports and Pleasures!
What Plays and Romances! What In-
trigues and Pastimes! Again, What Fals-
ness and Treachery! What Avarice and
Oppression! What Flattery and Hypocrisie!
What Malice and Slander! What Conten-
tion and Law-suits! What Wars and
Blood-shed! What Plunders, Fires and
Desolations!*

And 'tis not only committed by Chri-
stians in general one against another, but
by Christians of the same Faith, Sect and
Church one against another; praying to the
same God to destroy one another; and sing-
ing Psalms to God, when they have wicked-
ly destroyed one another. O the Rapes, Fires,
Murders and Rivers of Blood, that lye
at the Doors of profest Christians! If
this be Godly, What's Devilish? If this
be Christian, What's Paganism? What's
Anti-christian? But to make God a Party
to their Wickedness: O Prophanity!
O Blasphemy! What need is there of any
other demonstration, that Christendom is
fouly Apostatized from the Doctrine
and Example of Christ Jesus and his
true Followers, who saith, *If ye love me,
keep*

keep my Commandments : by this you shall be known to my Disciples, if you love one another. Whosoever doth not love his Brother, is of the Devil, and whosoever hateth his Brother, is a Murtherer ; and ye know, that no Murderer hath Eternal Life abiding in him. And it is not to be supposed that they kill one another in love : For Murther is not the effect of Love and Brotherly Kindness ; but of Malice, Envy and Revenge. O Christendom ! how art thou and thy Children degenerated from God, and fallen from the Doctrine of Christ, whose holy Name thou professest ! Thou art become a City full of Uncleanness, committing Whoredom under every Green Tree ; following other Lovers, than Jesus, whose Spouse thou professest to be. O thou Rebelious City, thou Cage of unclean Birds, thou and thy Children have filled the Earth with a stink of your Abominations !

O how Expert have you been in these Impieties ! How Ingenious to work Wickedness, and how fruitful in your Inventions to gratifie the Lust of the Eye, the Lust of the Flesh, and the Pride of Life !

Life! Oh how hath the *Heathen-Nature*, as an *evil Leaven* prevailed, and leavened the great Body of *Christians* at this Day, as if the End of *Christ's* Coming into the World, had been to furnish us with a *New Profession*, but not to give us a *New Nature*; to learn Men to *Talk*, and not to *Live*; to cry *Hosanna*, but in works to *Crucify him*. What did the *Heathens*, that *Christians* have not done? Yea, the same *Lusts*, *Vanities*, and *Impieties*, that reigned among them, are to be found improved among *Christians*. So that 'tis *Paganism* made free of the *Christian Profession*, or *Heathenism* *Christian'd*: And not to conform to the *Heathen* in the *Christian*, is not to be a *Christian*, but an *Heathen*. O the Ignorance as well as Wickedness of the present *Christian World*! Verily, the *Christian Life* is oppress'd under this Mass of *Darkness* and *Impiety*, found in the *Conversations* of *Apostate-Christians*, even as *Christ* was grieved and burdened with the *Darkness* and *Obstinacy* of the *Apostate Jews*. And as the *Hard-heartedness* of the false *Jews* *Crucified* him outwardly, so hath the *Hard-heartedness* of the false *Christians*

Crucified him *imprudently*: Which hath fulfilled, what is Recorded in the *Apocalypse*, viz. *That the Lord was Crucified in Sodom and Egypt*: *spiritually so called*: For the *false Christians* are the *spiritual Sodom and Egypt*, who *love and live in Sodom's Sin, and Egypt's Lusts and Pleasures*. Yea, they are of the Race of them that stoned the Prophets, and Crucified the Lord of Glory: Of the same Nature and Spirit. O the Blood of Jesus lyeth at their Doors shed, spilt, and trod under foot of them; and will one day cry for Eternal Vengeance against them, if they Repent not with unfeigned Sorrow, and turn to the Lord with their whole Hearts: Certainly, *Wo, Anguish and Tribulation* shall be their Portion for ever: That which they have grieved, shall grieve them; and that which they have bruised and resisted, shall reject and torment them: yea, it shall be a never dying Worm, and an endless Pain to them. O *Wo* to the *Worker of Iniquity* in that day! *Wo* to the *Slothful Servant*! *Wo* to the *Mocker and Scoffer*! *Wo* to the *Drunkard* and *Unclean Person*! *Wo* to them that spend

spend their Days in Vanity, and their Life in Earthly Pleasures ! *Wo* to the proud *Pharisee*, and disdainful *Scribe* ! *Wo* to the fearful and unbelieving ! *Wo* to Idolators and Lyars ! Yea, and *Wo* from God to all the Cruel *Persecutors* of the Innocent Lambs and Sheep of Jesus, for their pure Conscience to him ; For they shall have their part in the Lake, that burneth with Fire and Brimstone, which is the *Second Death*.

O that you might escape this great Damnation ! And I testifie to you, in the Word of the Lord, that God giveth unto you all a *Day of Visitation*, in which you may escape the *Wrath* to come. For this end God hath sent his *Son* a *Light* in, to your Hearts ; 'tis He, which manifesteth all your *Thoughts*, *Words* and *Deeds* under you ; 'tis he, which checks and reproveth you ; yea, 'tis he, which expostulateth and striveth with you ; 'tis he that knocketh at your Doors, and awakeneth you to Judgment : Who condemneth every unfruitful *Thought*, *Word* and *Work* in you. *Repent*, I exhort you, Turn to him, hear his Voice, and harden not your Hearts ; but while it is to day,

day, and the light shineth, and the Spirit
 striketh, O humble your selves, Bear his
 Judgments, love his Reproofs. And
 though his Word be as a Fire in your
 Hearts, and though you are even scorched
 within you, because of the Heat there-
 of; yet bear the Indignation of the
 Lord, in that you have sinned against
 him. *Wait, Watch and Walk* in the
Light of the Lord Jesus, that in his
 Blood you may feel Remission of Sins,
 and Sanctification unto Life Eternal:
 That you may no more walk after the
 Flesh, to fulfil the Lusts thereof, but in
 the Spirit of Holiness; that you may be
 Sealed unto the Day of Redemption. O
 the Peace, the Joy, the Pleasure, and
 the undecarable Comfort, that is daily
 met with in the holy and righteous way
 of the Lord!

O this riseth powerfully in my Soul,
 that his Form hath no Comeliness in it,
 that will Please Flesh; his Way and Wor-
 ship is most remote from it. *Flesh* and
Blood have no share in his Worship; the
Will and *Runnings* of Men have no part
 in his Way. 'Tis neither at the Moun-
 tain, where one sort runneth; nor at
 Jerusalem,

Jerusalem, whither another sort goeth ;
 but in *Spirit*, within the *Vale*, hid from
Flesh and *Blood*: Yea, there it is, that
 his *Worship* is known and performed.
 Any *Form* is more pleasant, than this :
 His *Visage* is more *Merr'd*, than any
 Man's. All *Will-worship*, all *Human In-*
vention findeth Acceptance, where he
 cannot find a place to lay his *Head* on.
 O this is a bitter *Cup* to the *Creature* ; few
 will drink it ! They are hard to be per-
 swaded to *Sit still*, and patiently to *Wait*
 for the *Salvation* of *God*, to let him
Work all their *Works* in them and for
 them. They know not, what it is, to
 have the *Mouth* in the *Dust*, to have all
Flesh silent before the *Lord* ; that the
Voice of *God* may be heard ; that he may
 Prepare them, and that the *Will* of *God*
 may be brought forth in them. O this
Mystery of *Iniquity*, how hath it wrought,
 and how doth it yet *Work* ! It claimeth
 a right to the *Living Child* ; but she hath
 no Right to it : She is the *Womb* of *Death*,
 and can bring forth no *Living Fruit* to
God. All *Nations* have drink her *Cup* :
 But the *Hour* of her *Judgment* is come.
 She is seen, disvailed, and condemned
 by

by the Living Spirit of God, that is felt, and received, and obeyed by a *Remnant*, who are gathered from the Mouths of *Idol-Shepherds*, and all the *Errings* and *Strayings* of *false Prophets*, that have no *Vision*; and are come to the *Lord*, to know his *Law* in their hearts, and *Fear*, and *Spirit* to be in their inward parts, and are taught and led by him. And these follow the *Lamb*, and are his *Host* this day, that fight under his *Banner* with his holy *Testimony* against the *Whore*, *false Prophet* and *Beast*: And behold, they shall prevail. For greater is he, that is in them, than he that is in the *World*; or, O this is a great *Mystery*, but a greater *Truth*; *Moses*, the *Servant*, is externally more *Comely*, than he: Yea, the *Prophets* were as *Pleasant Singers*, and as delightful *Instruments of Musick*; their *Visions*, *Sights*, and glorious *Prophecies* of the *last Days*, and *New Covenant-times* were, (says one of them of old) as a *pleasant Song*: But the *Son*, the *Substance*, when he came, no *Beauty*, no *Excellency*, no *Comeliness*. What's the matter? The *Way* is *Narrow* for *Flesh*

Flesh and Blood; there is a *Cross* must be taken up, a bitter *Cup* drunk, and a *Baptism*, yea, of *Blood* gone through. Man must die to his own *Will*, *Affecti-
ons*; *Imaginations*, and *Carnal Conceptions*; he must *wait* and *watch*, yea, continually: His own Religion and Righteousness is as odious, as his Sin and Iniquity, yea, in a sense more dangerous. 'Tis no *Outside*, will do; not that which pleaseth the busie, active *Will* and *Mind* of the Creature; that gratifieth the *External Senses*, that hath prevailed against the Soul: O no 'tis an hidden *Life*, an hidden *Temple*, an hidden *Worship*, and that in god's time; yea, an hidden *Manna*, an hidden *Supper*, not discernable by the vain *Seets* in this *World*. Of this *Tabernacle* is *Jesus* Builder, of this *Covenant* and *Worship* is he Author, of this *Altar* is he *Priest*: To this did he gather his of old, and to this is he gathering the *Nations*. *And the Bride saith, Come; and the Spirit saith, Come; and he saith, Come*: And blessed are they that *Come*, and See, how good he is.

But Such, who like *Sodom* of Old, go on to grieve the *Spirit* of the *Lord*, to
rebel

rebel against his *Light*, and vex God's just Lot, that liveth in the midst of them, persisting in their Lusts and Abominations, God's Angel shall smite them with blindness: The day of their Visitation shall pass away, and the forbearance of God shall be at an end, and Fire from Heaven shall devour them. Which with my Soul I fervently and tenderly desire you may all escape, whom God hath taught to hate your Sin, deny your *Glory*, and separate from all your false *Worships* by his own Light, Spirit and Truth, and to follow his Dear Son in the way of Regeneration, whose Love to me hath taught me to Love all Mankind, and to seek their Salvation.

Amsterdam, the 20th.
of the 8th, Month,
1677.

William Penn.

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